

In the Claims:

Kindly amend claims 1 and 2, delete claims 3 and 4 without prejudice and add new claims 5 and 6.

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1. (Amended) A DNA sequence comprising [the] a nucleotide [sequences] sequence [of the sequences No. 1 and No. 2 in the Sequence Table] selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1 and SEQ ID NO:2.

2. (Amended) The DNA sequence according to claim 1, wherein [the Sequence ID No. 1 includes] SEQ ID NO:1 comprises [the] a first exon of [the] an OCIF gene and [the Sequence ID No. 2 includes the] SEQ ID NO:2 comprises a second, third, fourth, and fifth exon of the OCIF gene.

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--5. (New) A protein having an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:3 and having a molecular weight determined under reducing conditions of about 60 KD, wherein said protein inhibits differentiation or maturation of osteoclasts.

6. (New) A method for producing the protein of claim 5, the method comprising inserting a DNA sequence into an express vector, the DNA sequence comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1 and SEQ ID NO:2; and inducing expression of the protein by the expression vector.--

In the Abstract

On lines 2 and 3, delete "the Sequences No. 1 and No. 2 in the Sequence Table" and insert "SEQ ID NOs: 1 and 2-- therefor.

REMARKS

The application has been amended to enter the Substitute Sequence Listing, to amend the specification and claims in accordance with the terminology of the Substitute Sequence Listing, and to place the claims into better form for prosecution.